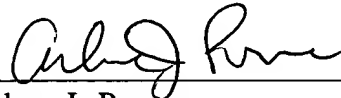


REMARKS

The present preliminary amendment is submitted in order to correct the improper multiple dependency of claims as originally filed and to incorporate amendments made during the international examination period.

Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Arlene J. Powers
Registration No. 35,985
Samuels, Gauthier & Stevens
225 Franklin Street, Suite 3300
Boston, Massachusetts 02110
Telephone: (617) 426-9180
Extension 110

MIXTURES OF MATERIALS

JC03 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 AUG 2001

THIS INVENTION relates to mixtures of materials.

According to the invention, a settable mixture comprises polybutadiene, a flow-enhancing liquid, and [substantially] dry particulate material, the latter having no more than 2% water content and containing no more than 2% Aluminium Oxide, and no more than 1% Ferrous Oxide, the percentages being by weight of particulate material.

The flow-enhancing liquid may be a flow-enhancing solvent.

The particulate material may comprise dry sand being at least 90% silica sand; ground or crushed glass, for example, including recycled glass and ground or crushed glass products which may include some non-glass material; ground slate or other mineral, for example granite or stone. However, preferably the particulate material as a whole should not contain more than 1.4% by weight of Aluminium Oxide, nor more than 0.5% by weight of Ferrous Oxide.

The particulate material may be a mixture of different materials.

The polybutadiene may be in liquid form.

The settable mixture may contain a re-odouriser.